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“I want to share all my knowledge with students. Love for students is the only motivational force for me.” These words of Dr. Vankhede reveal his true personality.

Mahatma, Scholar, Conservationist, Spiderman, wild life enthusiast, social worker and reformer, teacher, mentor ...these are only a few of the words which describe him.

Dr. Vankhede worked tirelessly all his life and with his “Midas touch” changed lives of students and people around him. He started his career in the field of Limnology and later took on the mantle of Head of Zoology department in S.G.B. Amravati University. His work on snakes and fishes is well known. His path breaking work on spiders gave him national and international recognition as “Spiderman”. Dr. Vankhede and his research team documented around 1600 spider species from central India of which around 300 were recorded nationally for the first time. He also recorded 6 spider species for the first time internationally.

Inspite of international fame, Dr. Vankhede remained a humble, down to earth person that he was and the perfect example of the metaphor that only the branch laden with fruits hangs low. Dr. Vankhede left for his heavenly abode on 1st of July, 2016. His passing leaves a void hard to fill in the field of knowledge and the hearts of many.

Om Shanti